



601st DASB

Battalion Newsletter

November 1, 2003



To the soldiers and family members of the 601st Division Aviation Support Battalion:

The fast rolling train continues to speed up so we need everybody to jump on board. The plan for our unit's deployment is coming together as we approach our departure date. Our soldiers are doing a tremendous job supporting our customers and preparing themselves to deploy in support of OIF II. Currently, we have many of our finest supporting 1-1 Aviation and 1-4 Cavalry.

We need to take a step back and remember the holidays are almost upon us. It is imperative for soldiers and family members to release from preparation and mission accomplishment and focus on ourselves and our families during these special times. Every holiday is a special time, but with everything that is going on both in the world and within the 601st, these holidays coming up become even more important. I have challenged the leaders of this fine organization to find a balance between ensuring our soldiers are ready to deploy and maximizing quality family time in the days and months leading up to our departure.

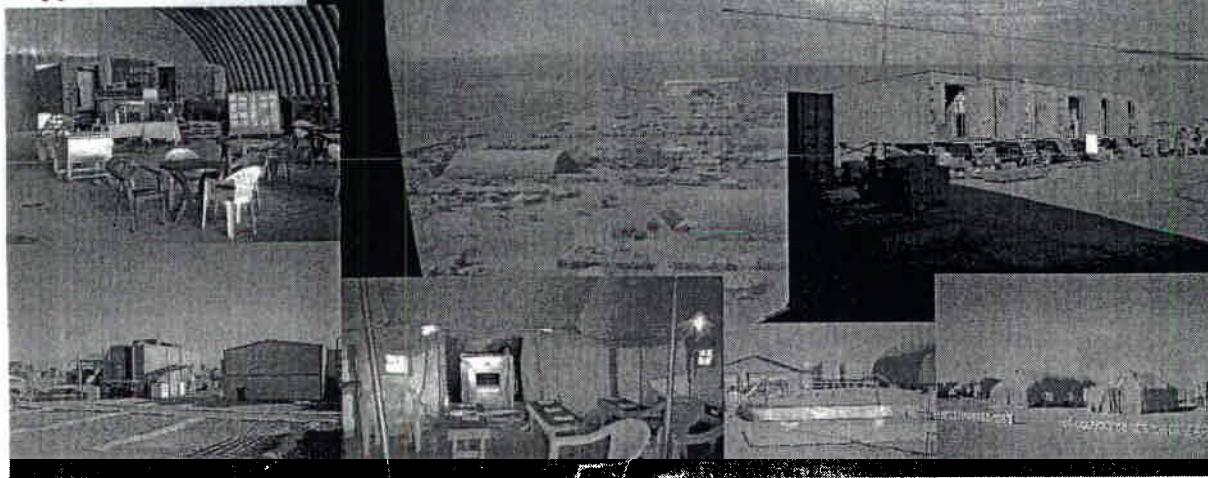
For those of you staying behind during this deployment, I want to re-emphasize the outstanding team the 601st will have representing all of our interests here in Katterbach. CPT Kaffo, MSG Skumautz, Tina Wheelchel, Ellen Niles, Kathy DeBaker, Pam Lindenmeyer, April DePew, SGT Franklin, and SGT Graham lead a fine team that will assuredly handle any issues/problems/concerns that may arise.

We must also continue to consider safety during all of our training and celebrations through the New Year. All of you are vital to this battalion and the greater mission that we are undertaking. Therefore, we must have everybody looking out for each other. Remember the buddy system, both on and off duty, as it diffuses situations before they become problems. Safety first, ALWAYS!

The OPTEMPO will be maintained at this blistering pace for the next few months, so I ask all of you to train hard, spend as much quality time with your family and prepare for this very important mission we have been asked to execute!

Very Respectfully,

LTC Samuel J. Ford III
"Typhoon 6"



Important Dates:

27 Oct -21 Nov
CMTC 04-01

3-5 Nov
235th BSB Fall Clean-Up

4-5 Nov
2-1 Avn Multi-ship dual doc gunnery

7 Nov
BN Payday Activities

7-26 Nov
1-1 AVN Gunnery

19 Nov
BN PDP

21 Nov
Reinforcing family training

5 Dec
BN Payday Activities and
BN Holiday Celebration

1-15 Dec
1-4 CAV gunnery

19 Dec-2 Jan 04
USAREUR ½ day schedule

20 Dec - 10 Jan 04
Block Leave (2 weeks max
per soldier allowed)